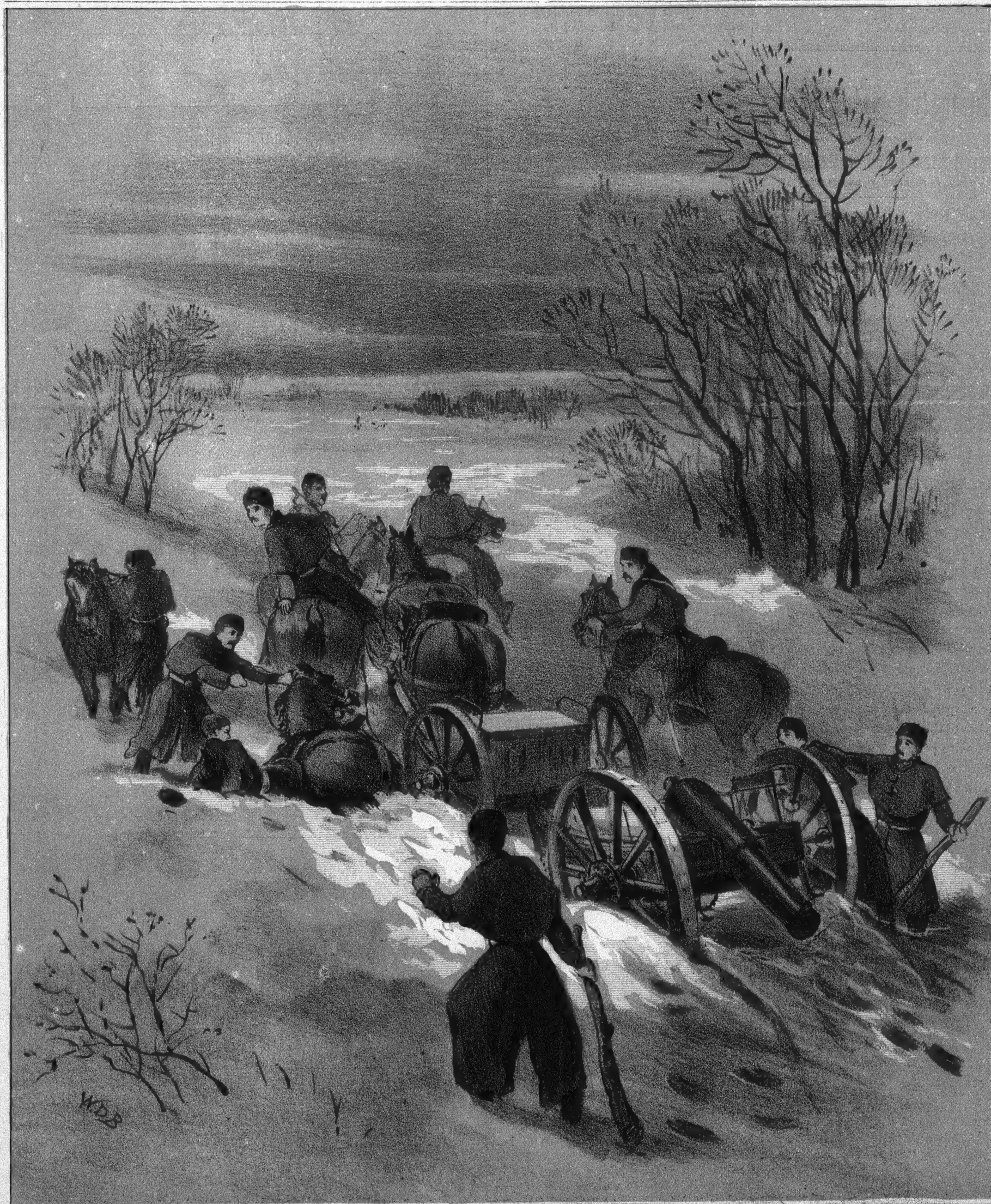


VOL. I., No. 3.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1885.

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"A" BATTERY IN THE TOUCHWOOD HILLS—STUCK IN A SNOW-BANK.

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Such communications should be addressed to the
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All letters on business subjects should be directed to the
"Grip Printing and Publishing Company, Toronto."

TORONTO, APRIL 18TH, 1885.

THE publishers have satisfaction in announcing that they have now entrusted the editorship of the ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS to Capt. C. W. Allen, late of the Department of the Interior, a journalist who unites with many years' experience of military matters such a thorough acquaintance with the conditions of life in the North-West as only a continued residence in that portion of the Dominion could give. Having spared no expense in procuring the services of the best artists obtainable, they venture to promise that their enterprise will be carried on in the future with increased vigor and efficiency.

THE SITUATION AT THE FRONT.

So far the troops have had no opportunity of striking a blow at the rebels who have set lawful authority at defiance and driven peaceful settlers from their homes. Vigorous measures are in progress, however, and we may expect soon to have news of stirring events.

The disturbed districts are to be penetrated by three different columns.

Gen. Middleton's force has by this time reached the Saskatchewan, and is likely to encounter the rebels under Dumont at either Clarke's or Batoche's Crossing, while co-operation by the Mounted Police under Col. Irvine, from Prince Albert, may be looked for.

Colonel Otter's brigade is now well on its way to relieve Battleford, having crossed the South Saskatchewan on Wednesday.

General Strange's brigade, for the relief of the Edmonton district, will set out from Calgary as soon as arrangements are completed.

THE most influential Indian in the North-West is Crowfoot, who is at the head of the Blackfeet, and assurances have been received by the Government that he will continue loyal to them.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

In our supplement this week Mr. J. W. Bengough has presented, by the power of his pencil, all the various suggestions as to the origin of this second North-West rebellion that have yet been placed before the public. What was formerly involved in some obscurity is therefore now quite clear—in fact somewhat clearer than the limpid water of Red River—and everyone can "put the saddle on the right horse" to suit his own particular views.

"A" BATTERY IN THE TOUCHWOOD HILLS.

The experience delineated on Page 1 is but a typical example of frequently occurring incidents on the line of march through the broken country of the region to the north of Fort Qu'Appelle. Though the land was clear in the open, snow was encountered where the trail penetrated the bush. After weary tugging throughout the day, the near wheeler has made a false step, resulting in a heavy fall upon the driver. The gunners, who have been assisting progress by the use of stout limbs of trees employed as handspikes, are hastening to the deliverance of their fallen comrade, while a segeant (the "No. 1" of this gun detachment) is promptly dismounting to give his personal aid and direction. It will be remembered that the contingent which A Battery furnishes to the North-West Field Force started to overtake Gen. Middleton immediately on its reaching Qu'Appelle station.

THE MARCH OF THE ROYAL GRENADIERS.

We are indebted to Mr. F. W. Curson for the sketches which have enabled us to faithfully represent the incidents illustrated on page 4. The march on board the schooner, to music of the stirring quickstep played by the bugle band, must have been a gratifying termination to a fatiguing tramp, and everyone can realize the sense of satisfaction which the tired soldiers must have felt in unrolling their blankets to make a rough shakedown in the hold. The manner in which the men occasionally advanced in "extended order," or disorder, from the sleighs while passing over another portion of the route, is happily exhibited in the small view shewing how they executed this manoeuvre involuntarily without any command from superior authority. Lastly, the experience of "cold comfort on a flat car," will enable those gentlemen of Canada "who sit at home at ease," or never ride by rail unless in a Pullman, to realize in some degree the circumstances of the volunteers who, in some cases at any rate, travelled in open flat cars without even the boarding up, as a protection against the wind, which kindly forethought had suggested on various portions of the route where passenger coaches were not available.

COL. MILLER QUELLING A MUTINY OF TEAMSTERS.

The incident illustrated at the top of page 5 occurred at Jaekfish Bay, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and is thus related by a correspondent:

"Col. Miller, after the departure of the detachment, with 20 men remained behind awaiting the return of the sleighs that had departed early in the morning with troops. On the return of the sleighs the drivers put up their horses and flatly refused to convey the Colonel as agreed. Such open defiance of military authority compelled him to take peremptory steps to enforce obedience. He placed his small force in battle array, and with drawn swords compelled the mutinous drivers to hitch up again. The Colonel reached his destination therefore a little late."

The command "fix swords" was apparently executed with so much alacrity that the volunteers did not observe parade formality and "take their time from the right." The display of cold steel proved a convincing argument, and the mutinous drivers at once, though somewhat sulkily, submitted to compulsion. It may here be remarked that the driver of any team hired or impressed for the service of Her Majesty is subject to the stern requirements of military discipline. Such a word as "won't" is never tolerated.

LORD MELGUND.

Among the first of the unattached officers who volunteered for service at the front was Lord Melgund, military secretary to His Excellency the Governor-General. He lost no time in pushing his way to the side of General Middleton, for whom he is acting as chief of the staff. The excellent likeness of his lordship which appears in this issue of the ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS is engraved from a recent photograph that was kindly forwarded, at the request of the Editor, by Lady

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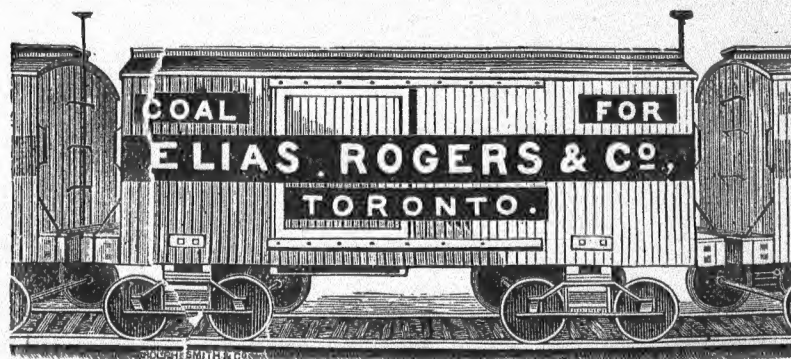
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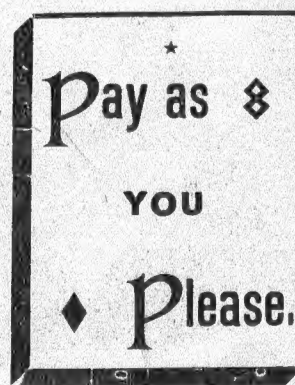
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Melgund, together with the accompanying extract from the *Scottish American* :

Lord Melgund, Private Secretary to the Marquis of Lansdowne, the new Governor-General, is the eldest son of the Earl of Minto, whose family name is Elliot, and whose family seat—Minto—is situated in one of the most picturesque parts of Teviotdale. Minto is mentioned by Scott in the "Lay of the Last Minstrel," and by Leydon in the "Scenes of Infancy." The family is an ancient and an honourable one. Two centuries ago it was sung as—

"The Elliot's brave and worthy men."

It is a family that can count among its kith and kin men who were "inured to foreign wars and feudal quarrels," such as the redoubtable Wat o' Harden and Lorrison, lion of Liddesdale, also the heroic Little Jock Elliot, whose challenge of "Wha daur meddle wi' me" has been enwoven in song and adopted as the motto of the Border Mounted Volunteers—a troop of mounted men of which Lord Melgund is the worthy major, Lord Heathfield, the illustrious defender of Gibraltar, was likewise a member of the clan, and so was "Admiral Elliot, the conqueror of Thurot." Distinguished as Lord Melgund's kinsmen and clansmen have been on sea and land, there were amongst them powerful politicians and successful diplomatists. One of them was Lieutenant-Governor of New York in the old American day, and the first Earl of Minto held the office of Governor-General of India. At present His Lordship's brother, the Hon. A. D. Elliot, represents the County of Roxburgh in the House of Commons. Several members of the family have adorned the bench and the bar, and more than one of them have been poets of renown, for instance Miss Jane Elliot, authoress of the "Flowers of the Forest." Lord Melgund himself has in several capacities, like the stock from which he has sprung—"brave and worthy men"—gained a name in arms, and in the peaceful paths of literature; whilst as a sportsman he has already a long and brilliant career. During his scholastic days at Eton and at Cambridge he was noted for his athletic achievements. As a gentleman he has rode and won many a steeple-chase, and has even ridden many a winning race under the assumed name of Mr. Roddy. His lordly bearing as an equestrian was greatly admired when as the head of the Mounted Volunteers he rode past the Queen at the great review in the Queen's Park, Edinburgh, two years ago. Lord Melgund began his military career when he was twenty-two years of age by joining the Scots Fusilier Guards. His Lordship has braved the dangers of the battle field, and seen many a sanguinary conflict in different lands. He was in Paris during the red days of the Commune, and acted as correspondent of the *Morning Post* at the headquarters of the Carlist army in Navarre. He was on the staff of General Lennox, the British military attaché with the Turkish army, and was present when the Russians bombarded the forts of Nickopolis. He served a while with Riouf Pasha during the same campaign. During this campaign he had a narrow escape of being shot by some Bashibazouks near the Bridge of Biela. As a volunteer Lord Melgund served his Queen and country under Roberts in the Afghan war. His last scene of warfare was in Egypt. He there held the position of captain in the Mounted Infantry. He was wounded at Magyar, and rejoined the corps two days after at Tel-el-Kebir. He afterwards commanded the Mounted Infantry at Cairo until they were disbanded at the conclusion of the war. On his return to Minto House from Egypt he was entertained to a banquet at Hawick by the border Mounted Volunteers, of which he is commanding officer. Three years ago he had an article in the *Nineteenth Century* on the subject of "Newspaper Correspondents in the Field." Lord Melgund entered into a state of matrimony in 1883, by marrying Miss Mary Caroline Grey, youngest daughter of the late General Grey, and sister to Mr. Albert Grey, M.P., for Northumberland. The marriage took place in St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, and Archdeacon Farrar was the officiating clergyman. The wedding presents were costly and numerous, among the givers being the Queen and several members of the royal family.—*Scottish American*.

MAJOR CROZIER, N. W. M. P.

The portrait of Major Crozier, who holds the rank of Superintendent in the North-West Mounted Police, will be regarded with special interest just now, owing to that officer having commanded the detachment of Mounted Police and civilian volunteers who had the disastrous engagement with Riel's followers at Duck Lake. The full-dress uniform of the officers of the police is very handsome, the breast of the scarlet tunic being profusely ornamented with gold lace arranged on the hussar pattern. Major Crozier has always been deemed one of the best and most popular officers of the Mounted Police, in which estimation he should continue to be held until the full particulars of the Duck Lake disaster are known. There was probably never a greater diversity of statement as to the facts of an occurrence—always excepting the reports of any political meeting in Canada, by papers of opposite views—than in connection with this "Battle of Duck Lake." The following despatch from Winnipeg probably reconciles as many of the discrepancies as can be harmonized at the present time :—

A volunteer who took part in the Duck Lake fight confirms the first report that the rebels were 300 strong and were concealed in a house and in the woods, and were not discovered by the police until they were within fifty yards. During the parley an Indian attempted to wrest a rifle from a policeman, and was shot. This was the opening of the fight, which lasted forty minutes. The house where the rebels were concealed was not discovered until after the fight commenced. A cannon was immediately brought to bear, but unfortunately in loading the police put in a shell without powder, thus rendering the gun useless. The volunteers remained standing while the police fought lying down, hence the greater loss of the former. Hon. Lawrence Clarke fought bravely during the struggle while many were being killed by his side. The Prince Albert dead remained on the field for seven days. Riel sent a messenger to the police to come for them, but the latter refusing the messenger himself removed them. The rebels captured fifteen rifles and about 500 rounds of ammunition. The Indians robbed the dead of two gold watches, but Riel has promised to have them returned.

PARADE OF THE MOUNTED POLICE.

The illustration in our current number is from a photograph taken last fall, and represents a parade of the Northern Division then quartered at Battleford, under command of Major Crozier. The force is formed up in front of the barracks, so as to compose three sides of a hollow square, with the artillery detachment on the right and the mounted men on the left. The dismounted portion of the command, with the band of the division, occupy the centre. *En passant*, it may be remarked that, though the Mounted Police have a much larger proportion of horses for their strength than any British cavalry regiment, and all of them are drilled in equitation, the majority of the force works dismounted, and accomplishes greater rapidity of movement by being conveyed in four-horse wagons or sleighs. The force is generally armed with a Winchester repeating carbine and a revolving pistol. Sabres are worn only by the officers and sergeants. The artillery detachment have seven-pounder mountain howitzers; but are evidently not to be trusted to perform their duty with efficiency unless commanded by a well qualified artillery officer. The episode at Duck Lake, whereby the only available gun was disabled in action, is disgraceful to the discipline of the force, and shows that the gunners must have lost their heads. The absence of Capt. Cotton, formerly adjutant of A Battery, who now commands the police at Fort McLeod, was an unfortunate circumstance on this occasion.

ARRIVAL OF THE ROYAL GRENADIERS AT CAMP DE O-LATION.

Here again we are indebted to Mr. F. W. Curzon for a sketch which has enabled the artist to represent faithfully, and yet poetically, an experience which the Grenadiers are not likely soon to forget. As all who contemplate it have doubtless read an account of the dismal circumstances of the occasion, it is unnecessary for us to recapitulate. Our illustration shows a railroader regretfully explaining to the officer how the troops must remain at this cheerless spot until the disabled engine can bring the train required to convey the troops on the next stage of their arduous journey. Some of the men are endeavouring to rekindle dying camp fires and to solace themselves with their pipes, while others, too exhausted even to divest themselves of their packs, throw themselves on the ground to seek much needed rest. How gratifying to know that, notwithstanding such rough experience of "real soldiering," the troops reached Winnipeg "never the worse," like the little Jackdaw of Rheims, after "that terrible curse."

MIDNIGHT TRAMP OF THE ROYAL GRENADIERS.

As to the illustration of the march from Red Rock to Nepigon, on our eighth page, we feel that we should wrong the artist and do scant justice to the *Mail* correspondent if we failed to allow them to tell the story between them :—

After leaving the cars the battalion paraded in line. A couple of camp-fires served to make the darkness visible. All the men were anxious to start, and when the word was given to march it was greeted with cheers. It was impossible to march in fours, therefore an order was given for "Left turn; quick march." We turned obedient to the order, but the march was anything but quick. Then into the solemn darkness of the pines and hemlock the column slowly moved, each side being snow four feet deep. It was almost impossible to keep the track, and a mis-step buried the unfortunate individual up to his neck. Then it began raining, and for three mortal hours there was a continuous down-pour. The lake was reached at last, to the extreme pleasure of the corps.

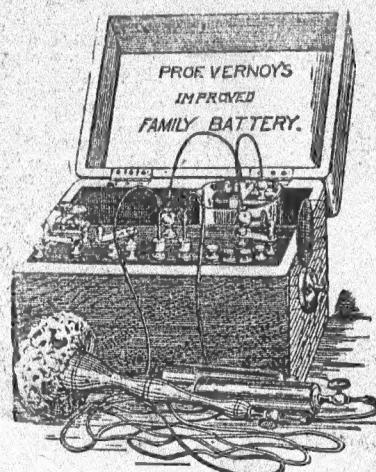
A SUITABLE "pill for the Russians" appears in the window of the Li-quer Tea Company's store, Yonge street, in the shape of one of the projectiles used by the men-of-war which bombarded the forts at Alexandria. It is said to weigh 700 lbs. and is thrown from a gun weighing 35 tons.

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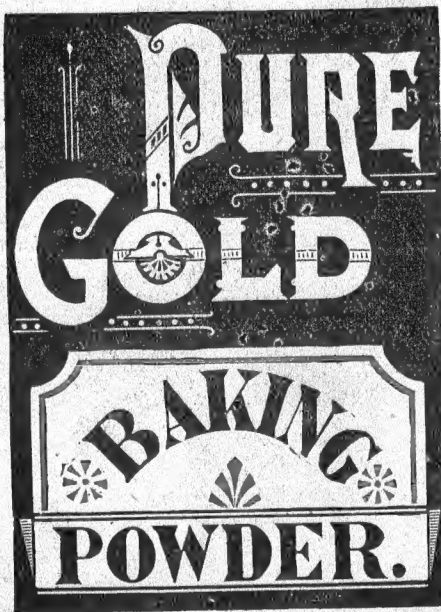
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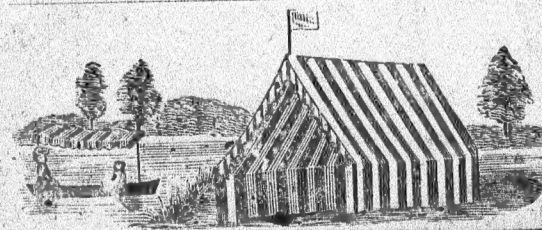
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The First Insurrectionary Movements of Riel.

We have carefully avoided giving currency to the rumors that were floating around all winter, but now that events have called forth action on the part of the authorities, reticence is no longer either necessary or justifiable.

From the information in our possession it appears that Riel has assumed the role of agitator, delivering inflammatory speeches in which he urges his followers to demand from the Government a recognition of what he says are their "rights." In his latest oratorical efforts at Duck Lake he is said to have pointed out that England was now engaged in a gigantic foreign war, and that this was their opportunity, as she could not spare any troops to fight them.

According to their own talk, the deluded men intend to re-enact the old-time scenes at the barricade at St. Norbert, by deciding that on the 15th March they will put a stop to all traffic across the South Branch. A more

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suicidal programme for their own interests would be hard to decide on.

Since the above was in type we have received the following despatch, dated eight o'clock :—

"The half-breeds at Batoche are reported to be in a state of ferment. Very little is known of their intentions as yet, but it is thought they contemplate mischief."

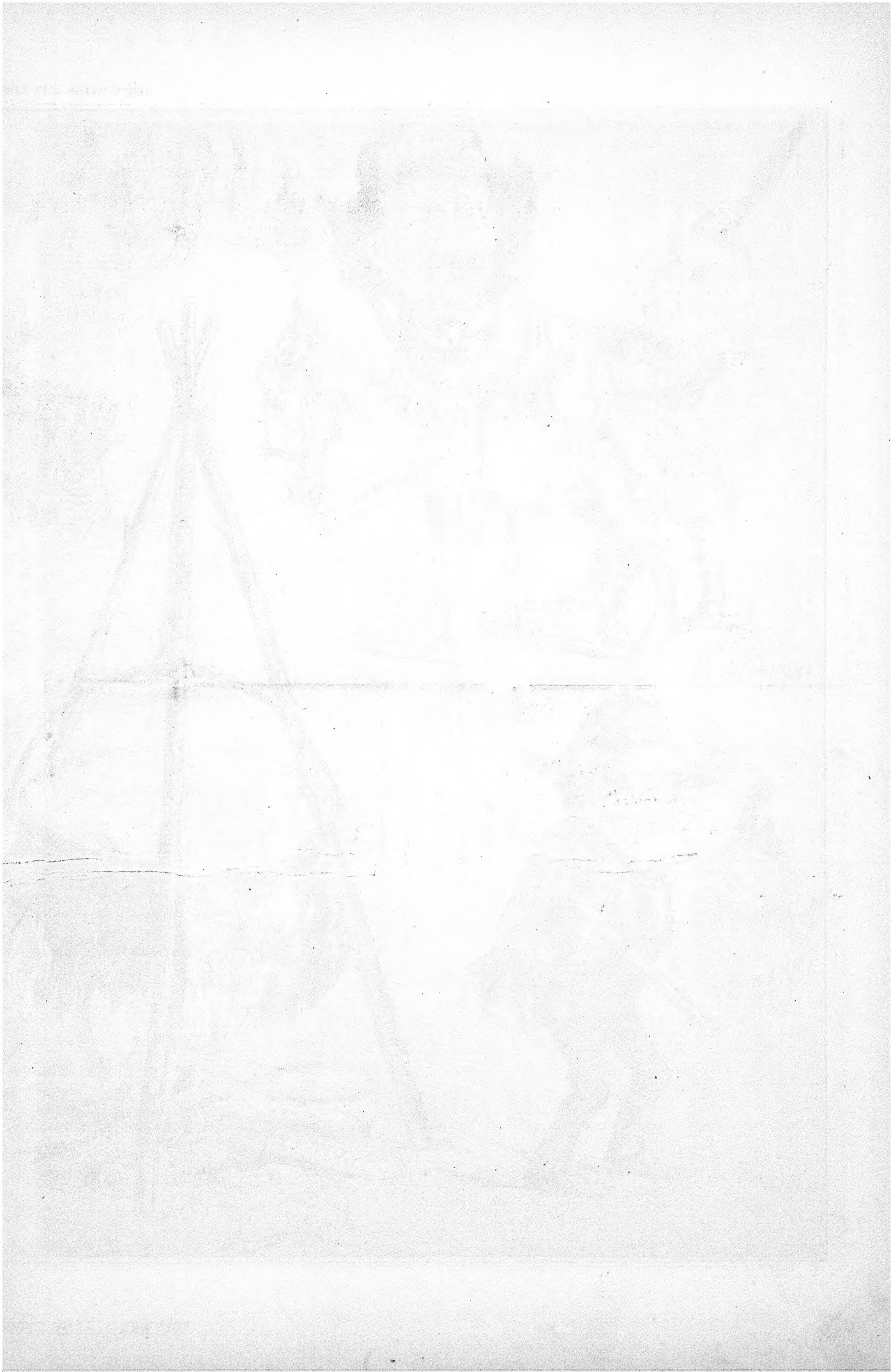
"On Sunday Louis Riel addressed a large gathering outside the church in French, the substance of which was that England and Russia would likely be at war in a short time, and the attention of the Canadians would be so much directed to the struggle that it would be a good time for the half-breeds to assert their rights."

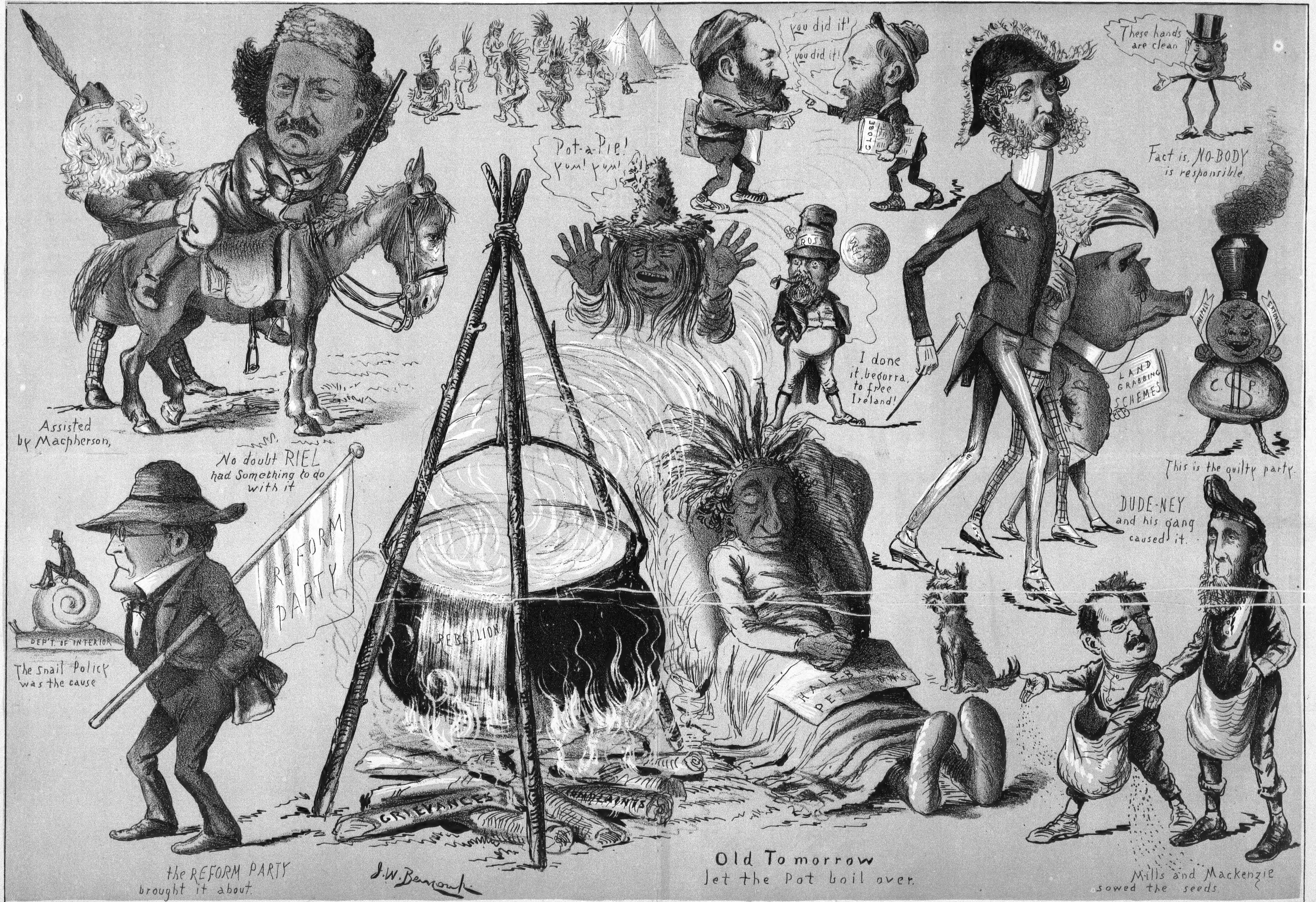
"Certain malcontents among the whites at Prince Albert sympathize with the half-breed agitators, and one of them has circulated letters setting forth the half-breeds' claims. One of these demands is that the management of the railways and running of trains in the North-West should be under control of the native half-breeds."—*Saskatchewan Herald*, March 13.



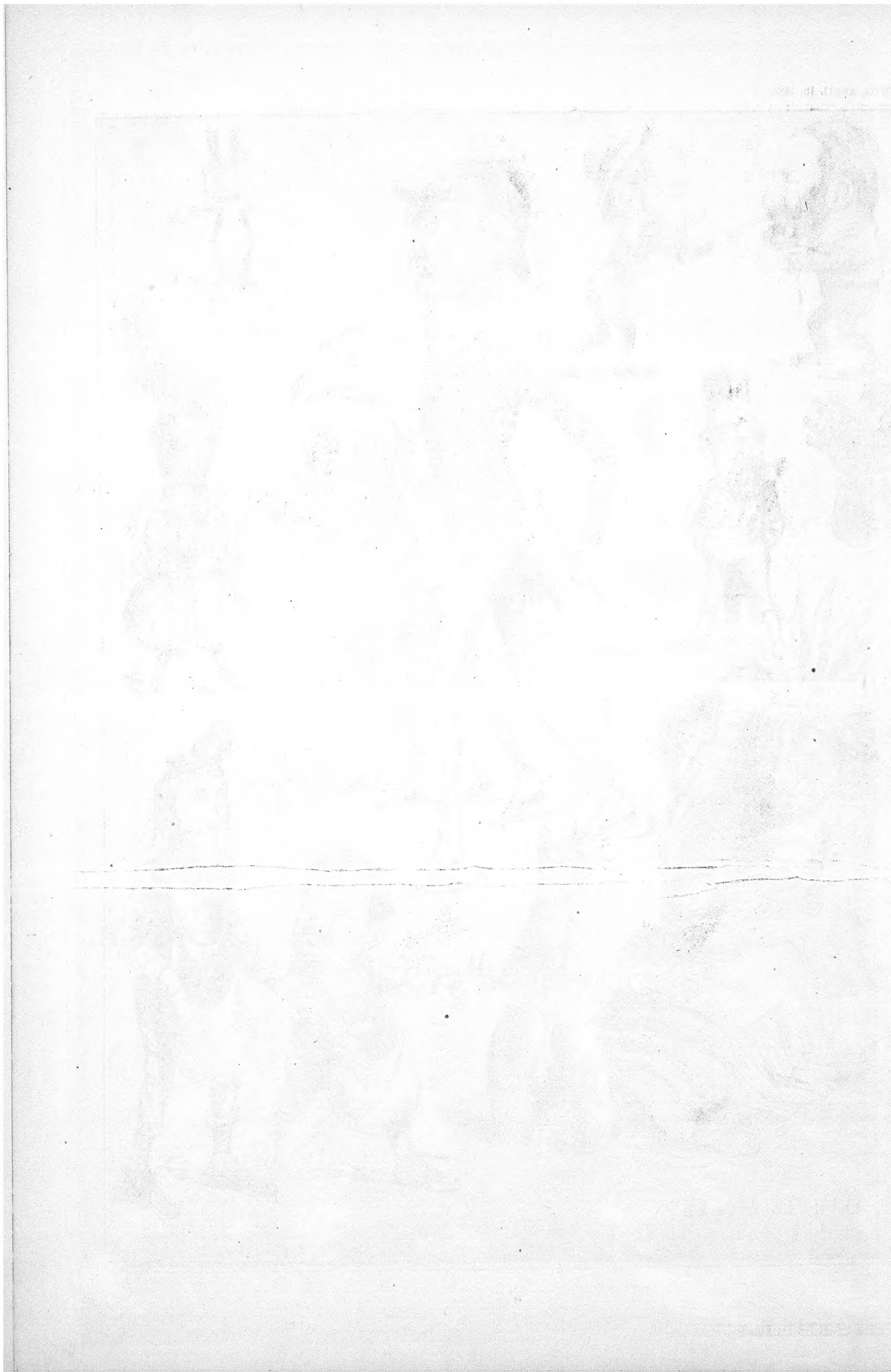
MIDNIGHT TRAMP OF THE ROYAL GRENADIERS.

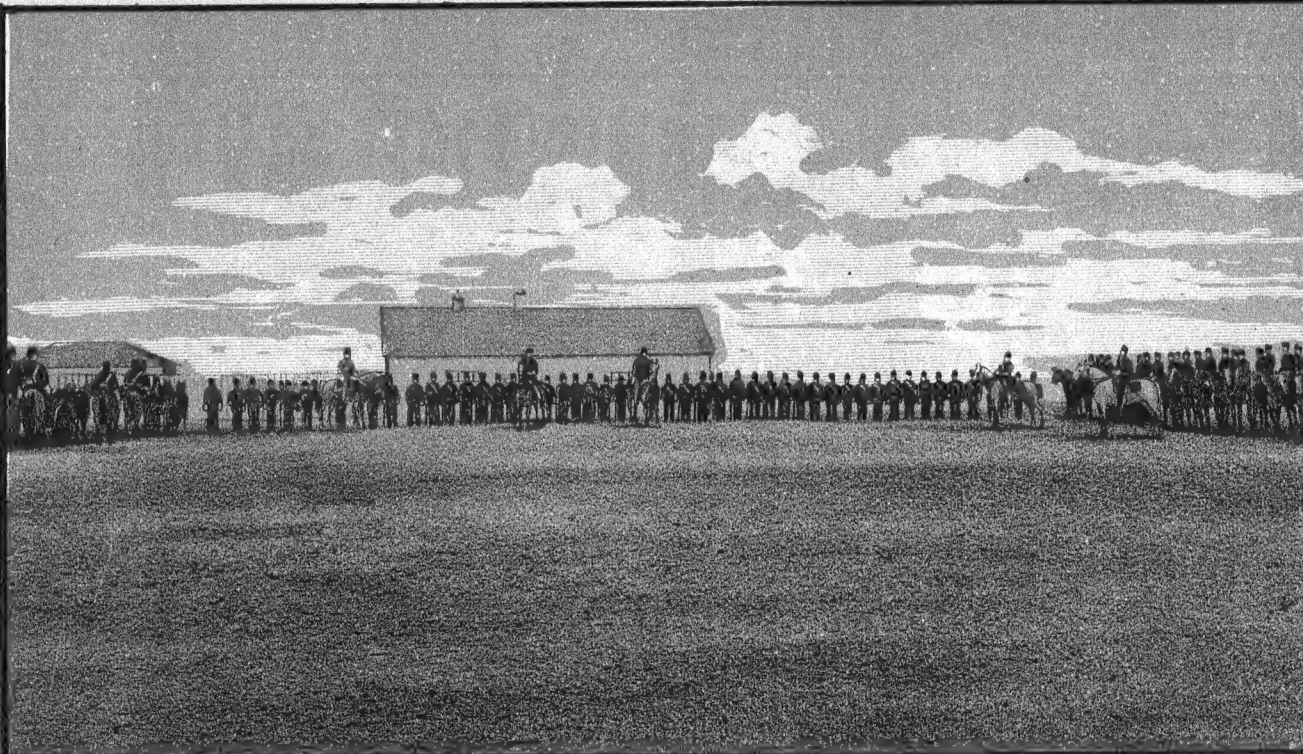
"Into the solemn darkness of the pines and hemlock the column slowly moved, each side being snow four feet deep. It was almost impossible to keep the track, and a mis-step buried the unfortunate up to his neck. Then it began raining"



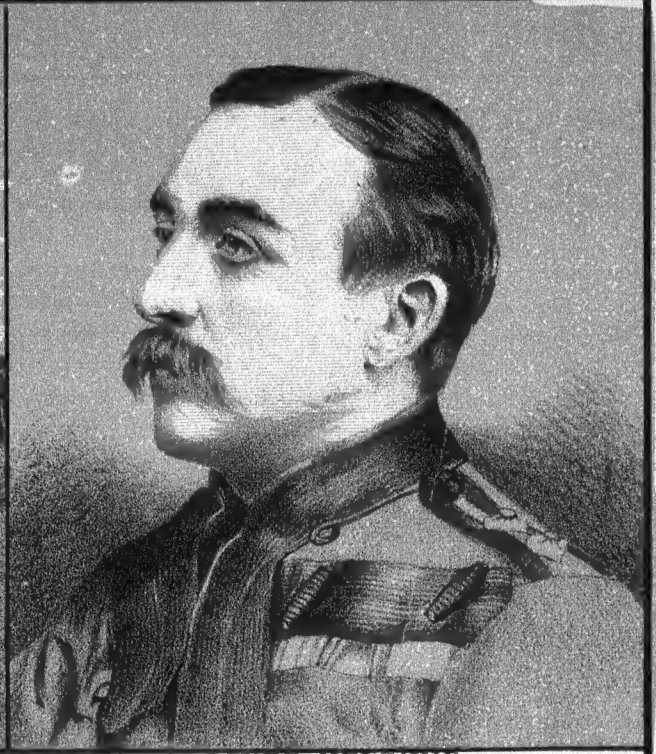


WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

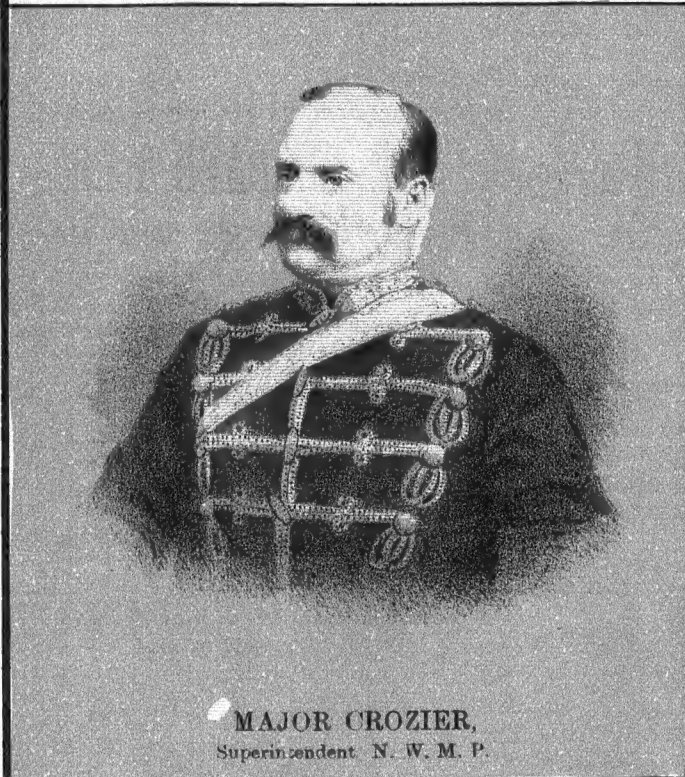




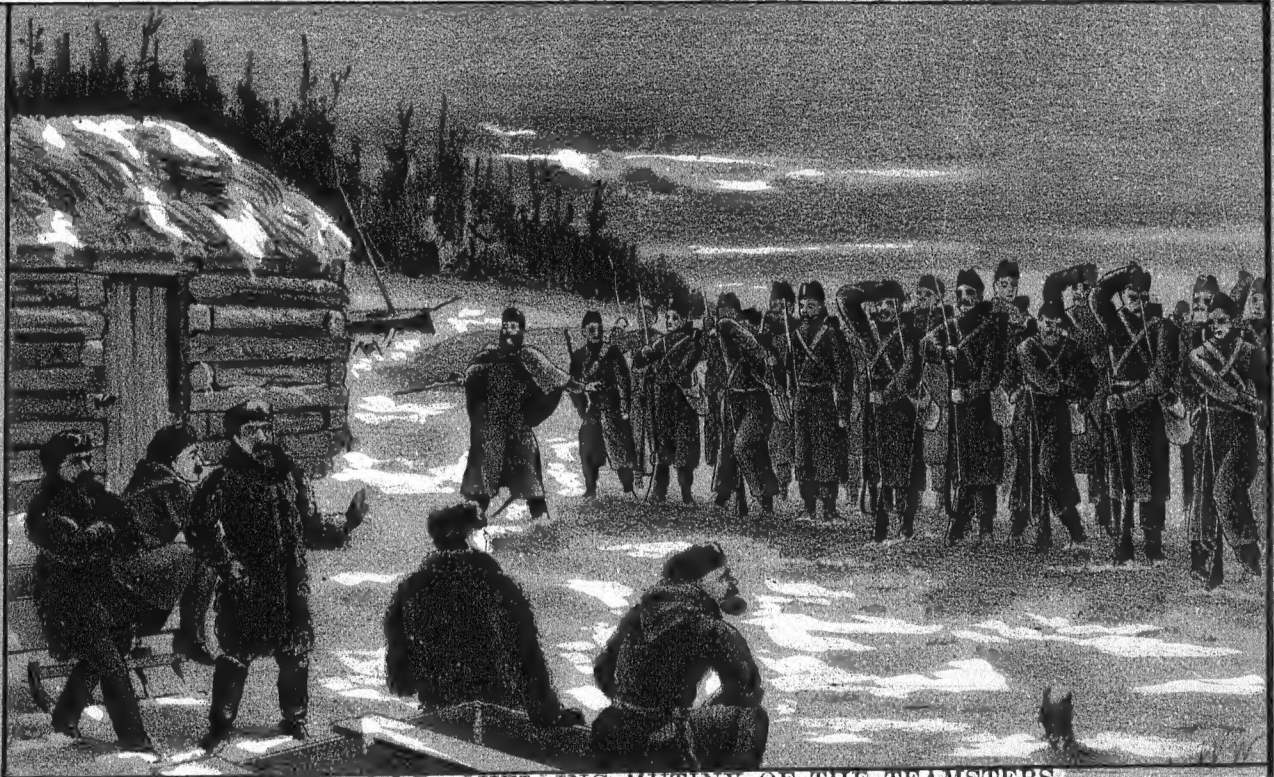
A PARADE OF MAJOR CROZIER'S COMMAND AT BATTLEFORD. (From a Photograph.)



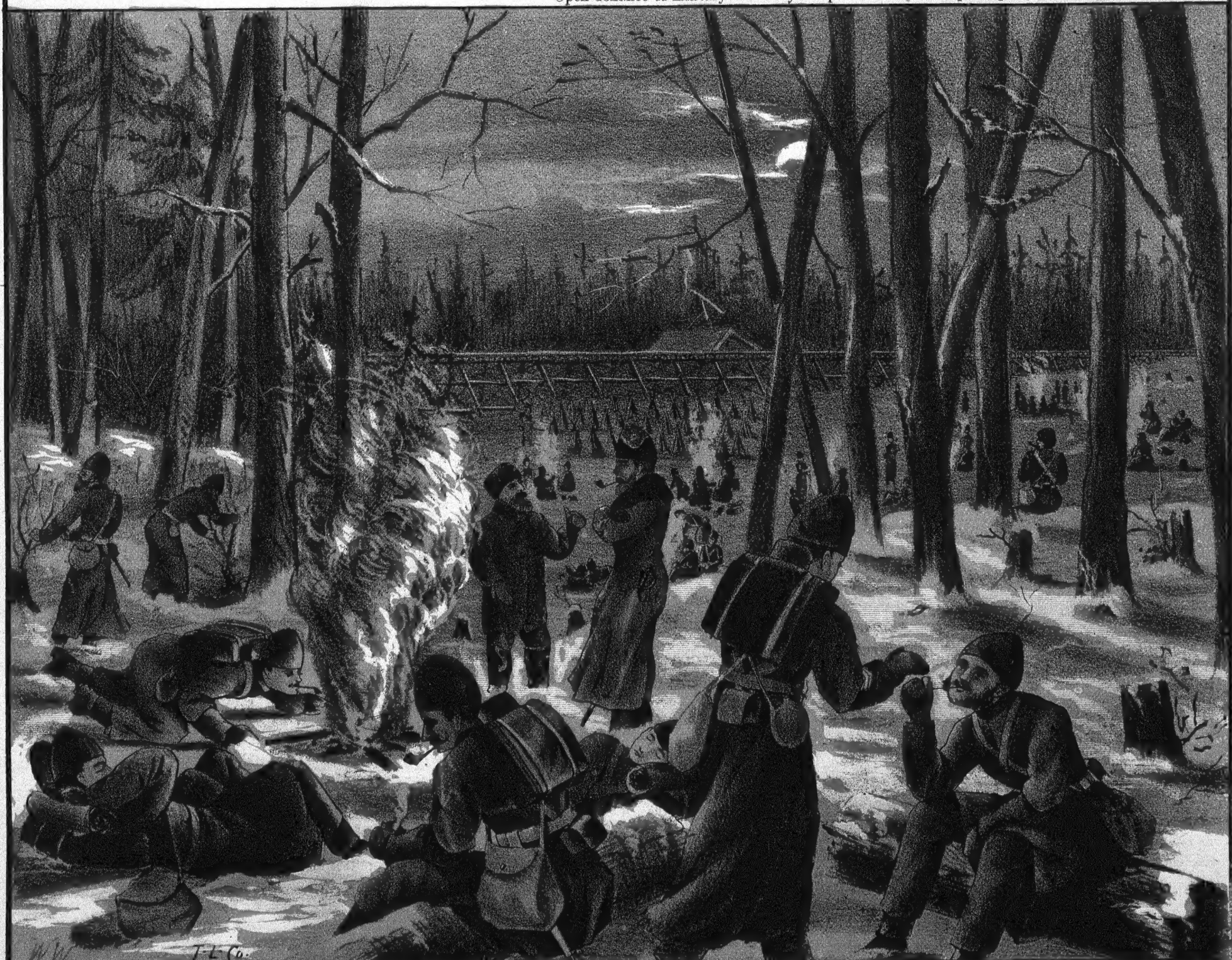
LORD MELGUND,
Military Secretary to the Gov.-General.



MAJOR CROZIER,
Superintendent N. W. M. P.



COL. MILLER, Q.O.R. QUELLING MUTINY OF THE TEAMSTERS.
"Open defiance of military authority compelled him to take peremptory steps."



ARRIVAL OF THE ROYAL GRENADIERS AT CAMP DESOLATION.
(From a Sketch by Color Sergt. F. W. Curzon.)

THE CANADIAN MILITIA.

At the present time, when one branch of the Canadian militia force has taken the field in support of the cause of law and order, which every good citizen should hold dear, a little information as to the composition of that force as a whole will doubtless be deemed opportune. As the text for our subject, we cannot do better than quote the law under which the military forces of the Dominion are constituted. The Consolidated Statutes of Canada, chap 36, enact as follows:—

The Militia shall consist of all the male inhabitants of Canada, of the age of sixteen and upwards, and under sixty—not exempted or disqualified by law, and being British subjects by birth or naturalization; but Her Majesty may require all the male inhabitants of Canada, capable of bearing arms, to serve in case of a *levee en masse* (46 V., c. 11, s. 4). The male population so liable to serve in the Militia, shall be divided into

FOUR CLASSES.

The first class shall comprise those of the age of eighteen years and upwards, but under thirty years, who are unmarried or widowers without children.

The second class shall comprise those of the age of thirty years and upwards, but under forty-five years, who are unmarried or widowers without children.

The third class shall comprise those of the age of eighteen years and upwards, but under forty-five years, who are married or widowers with children.

The fourth class shall comprise those of the age of forty-five years and upwards, but under sixty years.

And the above shall be the order in which the male population shall be called upon to serve. (46 V., c. 11, s. 5.)

DIVISION OF MILITIA.

The Militia shall be divided into Active and Reserve Militia—Land Force; and Active and Reserve Militia—Marine Force.

The Active Militia—Land Force—shall be composed of:—

- Corps raised by voluntary enlistment.
- Corps raised by ballot.
- Corps composed of men raised by voluntary enlistment and men ballotted to serve.

The Active Militia, Marine Force—to be raised similarly—shall be composed of seamen, sailors, and persons whose usual occupation is upon any steamer or sailing craft navigating the waters of Canada.

The Reserve Militia—Land and Marine—shall consist of the whole of the men who are not serving in the Active Militia for the time being. (46 V., c. 11, s. 6.)

There is at present no marine militia in existence.

Few among us seem to realize that the brave fellows who have just been ordered to the front by reason of their enrolment in "corps raised by voluntary enlistment," have, by their patriotic zeal in spontaneously enlisting, and their self-abnegation in subjecting themselves to drill and discipline, saved the rest of the community from having to participate in martial experience, *volens vovens*, through being drafted to serve in "corps raised by ballot." The voluntary principle is undoubtedly the best for a free community, so long as it serves to keep the ranks of the organizations deemed necessary for the public service up to their full strength in numbers and in quality of material, for it possesses the great advantage of securing for enrolment men who have a taste for the profession of arms, who are proud to belong to military corps, and who, as a rule, are not burdened with domestic responsibilities. The term of service for which recruits enrol themselves in the active militia is three years, at the end of which period many drop out of the ranks in consequence of marriage or business ties depriving them of the leisure required for continued connection with their corps. It thus happens that a constant stream of young Canadians—the flower of the vigor and intelligence of the country—is constantly passing through the ranks, with the result that a very large proportion of the mature manhood of the Dominion is familiar with military drill and discipline to the moderate extent that so brief an experience is capable of producing. This is a valuable feature in the system, as, should occasion demand, many a retired militiaman would not only be ready, but fit, to resume his place in the ranks of the corps which he was formerly a member of.

A MILITIA organization, such as the Dominion possesses, is indeed a grand and important element of national strength and development. In principle it is based on the same foundation as the militia organization of the Mother Country, and in like manner derives its strength from its essentially national and truly democratic character. We have just witnessed, in the proclamation of the Gladstone Government embodying the militia force of Great Britain, evidence of the reliance which the nation feels in such a means of increasing the available regular army at short notice. Indeed, it has become a growing necessity, in time of danger to the British Empire, for the Queen's Government to fall back on the good old constitutional force of militia, so eminently suitable to the genius of the Anglo-Saxon races, to say nothing of the convenience of being able to take it up or lay it down at pleasure.

THE militia plays a prominent part in the history of both England and America. The armies of Edward III., which shattered the chivalry of France, were composed of militiamen. It is true that they were in those days taught to shoot with the bow instead of the rifle, the former being deservedly held in estimation as the natural weapon. Again, the battles of the wars of the Roses were fought by militia troops. On this continent Burgoyne, with his regulars, Hessians, and Indian allies, had to surrender at Saratoga to the militia of the English colonists. Numbers of militiamen, fresh from their local regiments, swelled the ranks of the British infantry at Waterloo; and lastly, the terrible battles of the Wilderness around Richmond were fought to the bitter end by militia troops.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, a prominent member of the British Association, who, it will be remembered, delivered last fall in Winnipeg a highly appreciative address upon the resources and prospects of the Canadian North-West, at a recent dinner of the Shorthand Writers' Association, London, England, in the course of a speech replying to the toast of "Her Majesty's Services," offered some remarks pregnant with matter demanding the careful consideration of those who assume to think that the British lion is approaching the period of senility, and that his fangs are no longer firmly rooted. He said that England was certainly a great military power. At present there were at least 100,000 British troops under arms or on the waters. Was this not an unparalleled achievement? Did they suppose that Germany flattered herself that she was the first military power? Could that country maintain that number of men abroad? Could Russia or France do it? He considered they certainly could not. England was the only power who could maintain that number of men solely by voluntary enlistment. No other military power could keep such a large number by voluntary enlistment. There were a million of men under arms in the British Empire. Every one of those men was a volunteer, as every one had enlisted voluntarily, whereas all other powers had to force their men into the army. He claimed for Great Britain one of the first positions as a military power. With regard to the navy, very many accounts had been seen of the ships that were being constructed, of the number of guns they were to have. If experts were asked, it would be found that it was one thing to have ships armed and manned, and another thing to have them ready to fight. It would be found that there were many ships belonging to other powers that were armed, but not ready to fight. He believed that if all the British iron-clads were turned out into the British channel they would overlap the fighting iron-clads of other empires.

MORE lives have already been lost with Riel's rebels than were sacrificed during the whole of the rebellion of '37, and more than were lost in the Fenian invasions of '66 and '70.

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covery, but after deliberating for a time I concluded to give it a trial, so I procured a bottle and commenced taking it three times a day. JUDGE OF MY SURPRISE, at the expiration of the third day to find my appetite returning. HOPE REPLACED DESPAIR, and I persevered in following the directions and taking hot baths two or three times a week until I had used the fifth bottle. I then had no further need for the medicine that had SAVED MY LIFE—that had restored me to health—as I was radically cured. The natural color had replaced the dingy yellow, I could eat three meals a day, in fact the trouble was to get enough to eat. When I commenced taking the Discovery my weight was only 132½ lbs., when I finished the fifth bottle it was 172½ lbs., or an increase of about 40 lb. per day and I never felt better in my life. No one can tell how thankful I am for what this wonderful medicine has done for me. It has rooted out of my system every vestige of the worst type of Jaundice, and I DON'T BELIEVE THERE IS A CASE OF JAUNDICE, LIVER COMPLAINT, OR DYSPEPSIA THAT IT WILL NOT CURE.

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REDUCED POSTAGE ON LETTERS TO TROOPS ON SERVICE.

THE "sweethearts and wives" of the members of corps ordered out on actual service will doubtless exchange a good many letters with the absent ones so dear to them. It will be of interest, therefore, to them to know that they enjoy the privilege of sending their "pink letters" at a reduced rate of postage, provided the regulations for such correspondence be duly observed. Happily no requirement is insisted on that the tender epistles should be sent open to the scrutiny of every unsentimental and stony-hearted post office official who may desire to pry into the mysteries of love letters, and be disposed to make fun of the "sweet nothings" that may pass between

Two minds with but a single thought,
Two hearts that beat as one.

There is no regulation that the envelope should be of a peculiar shape, of transparent material, or scented with any particular variety of perfume familiar to the feminine toilet. The rules are simple but they must be observed strictly, lest, mayhap—oh dreadful thought!—some tender missive destined for a lucky "Tom, Dick, or Harry," Algernon, Adolphus, or Fred, should find its way to the Dead Letter Office, there to have its contents gloated over by the officials popularly supposed to possess themselves of lots of careless ladies' secrets through the medium of the single eye-glass largely affected by aristocratic members of the Ottawa Civil Service. However, we promised our fair friends the rules; and here they are, stern and concise, word for word, as they appear on page 49 of the Militia Regulations:—

372. Under regulations of the Post Office Department, letters for or from non-commissioned officers and privates of the Active Militia of Canada, when on active service, can be forwarded between any place in Canada and any other place in Canada on prepayment of two cents for each letter.

373. The formalities which require to be complied with are:—

- (1) The letter must not exceed half an ounce in weight.
- (2) The letter must refer solely to the private affairs of the militiaman on actual service.
- (3) The name of the militiaman, his class or description, and the corps to which he belongs, must be specified in the direction of the letter; and certified by the officer commanding thereon.
- (4) The foregoing description must be fully written in the following form, the initials of the name of any corps being insufficient:—

From A. B., Private or Sergeant, as the case may be, — Batt. or Corps.

To (here insert direction),
Place.

C. D. ———,
Officer commanding corps.

(5) Letters posted without a compliance with the above regulations are liable to be sent to the Dead Letter Office, Ottawa.

It might be observed that section 1 of paragraph 373 is just a trifle harsh, as placing an arbitrary limit on natural indulgence of the affections. Our personal experience having been somewhat limited—and our early education sadly neglected—we should feel obliged if any of our readers who have enjoyed better facilities for arriving at a competent opinion can inform us how many kisses will go to the pound, so that on a future occasion we may be able to estimate for the benefit of all concerned, the number that the half ounce limit is supposed to cover. *En passant*, it is proper to remark that it is just a little rough on the unmarried officers of the expedition, that the privileges accorded to the N. C. O. and private are denied to those who hold commissioned rank. However, they may console themselves with the reflection that their *cheres amies* can send such sweet contributions through the medium of the parcel post (4 oz. for one cent), though, sad to say, the package must be made up so as to be available for the inspection of every prying post office official, and there is no place in the North-West except Winnipeg to which the contents of such a package weighing more than 2 lbs. 3 oz. is permitted to be mailed even in this way.

Answers to Correspondents.

ENQUIRER (Hamilton).—You were wrong that time. A surgeon has no "command" except in the actual line of his special duties. A lance-corporal even would be the authoritative commander of such detachment, if no superior combatant officer were present.

LOYAL CANADIAN (Buffalo).—The law provides that "any militiaman who, when called out for active service, shall absent himself from his corps for a longer period than seven days may be tried by court-martial as a deserter." Send your address to the captain of your company, and he will doubtless notify you promptly if the corps should be called out.

Q. O. R.—We have no knowledge of an offer having been made by a Toronto journalist to raise a corps of 300 Montana cowboys on condition that he himself receives a commission. Whether he holds "independence" views or not, the law requires that every officer of militia on appointment shall take the following oath:—"I, ———, do sincerely promise and swear (or solemnly declare) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty."

A BOOK-KEEPER in a down-town office was advised by his employer to obtain his discharge from his corps as he was needed at home. He was a married man. When he went home that evening he told his wife his decision, and asked her opinion. Claspings their only child to her bosom, she warmly replied: "Don't you do it, Charlie; go to the front, and do your duty like a man!"

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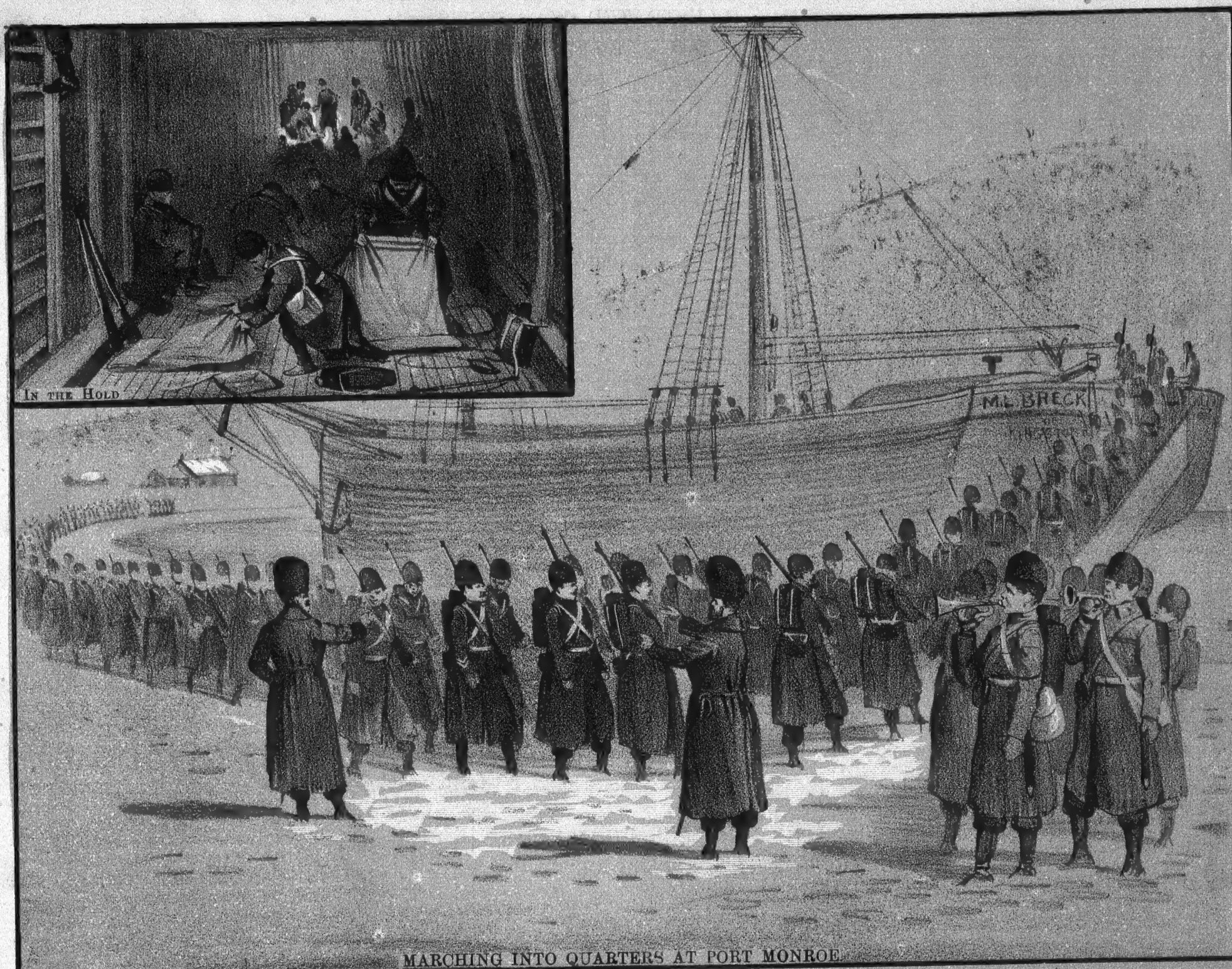
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